

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1312

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to recognize Bernardino and Josefina Marcelo
on the occasion of their retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those exceptional Tennesseans who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry and have achieved great success in the practice of medicine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bernardino D. Marcelo and Dr. Josefina Q. Marcelo of Hawkins County are two such outstanding physicians who are most assuredly deserving of special recognition, and they have taken a much deserved retirement after more than fifty years of exemplary service; and

WHEREAS, this amazing couple has enjoyed more than fifty years of practicing medicine together, and they have also enjoyed some 49 years of marital bliss; and

WHEREAS, natives of the Philippines but now United States citizens, Drs. Bernardino and Josefina Marcelo (or as they are better known, Dr. B and Dr. Josie) joined Rural Health Service Consortium in November 1989; they are both stalwart supporters of this worthy organization and the Rogersville community in general; and

WHEREAS, after receiving his medical degree from Manila Central University's College of Medicine and Surgery in 1955, Dr. Bernardino Marcelo followed his goal to Far Rockaway, New York in 1956 to serve a rotating internship followed by General Practice Residency; he finished a two-year general practice residency at Portage County Hospital in Ohio and has been in private practice ever since; and

WHEREAS, certified by the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduate (ECFMG), the American Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, he was awarded Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians in 1980, and also maintains his Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advance Life Support (ACLS) certification; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Bernardino Marcelo is an influential member and leader in several professional organizations, including the Hawkins County Medical Society, the Tennessee Medical Association, the American Medical Association, the American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the John Sevier Chapter of AAFP, and he has been honored with the Physician Recognition Award by the American Medical Association; and

WHEREAS, Dr. B has captured the hearts of his patients with his caring way, wonderful sense of humor, and dedication to their personal well being. He often goes beyond the role of general practitioner to provide for the needs of his patients who are prevented, because of lack of income, lack of insurance, or the ability to travel distances, from obtaining specialty care; and

WHEREAS, like her husband, Dr. Josefina Marcelo received her medical degree in Manila, Philippines, at the University of Santo Thomas College of Medicine and Surgery; she came to America in 1957 for a rotating internship in Tucson, Arizona, followed by a year of general practice residency in Sharon, Pennsylvania before she completed a general practice residency with her husband in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Josefina Marcelo served on the staff of Hawkins County Memorial Hospital from 1989-1999, during which time she held the post of Chief of Medical Staff for two years; she is also an influential member and leader in several professional organizations, including the Hawkins County Medical Society, the Tennessee Medical Association, the American Medical Association, the John Sevier Chapter of AAFP, and the American Women's Medical Association; and

WHEREAS, she is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Board of Quality Assurance Utilization Review Physicians, American College of Medical Quality, and became Diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice in 1980; and

WHEREAS, a proud and patriotic American, Dr. Josefina Marcelo retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel from the United States Army Reserve after thirteen years of honorable service and also served in the United States Air Force Reserve; she still remains with the Army Reserve in a health department capacity in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, during her outstanding military career, Dr. Josefina Marcelo, a veteran of Desert Storm, was awarded the Resolution of Commendation for noble service and patriotism

during Desert Storm; her other military awards include a citation for exemplary service by USAF Commander Colonel Thomas R. Mikolojeik as an Outstanding Performer for Professional Leadership, Knowledge, and Devotion to Duty, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Josie has won the loyalty, trust, and admiration of her staff and patients alike; she treats each patient with the utmost priority and respect and diligently researches every possibility to find resources to assist her patients, because she is totally devoted to their needs; and

WHEREAS, Drs. Marcelo began their joint practice in West Virginia, where they served the community of Berkeley Springs for twenty-five years and Wheeling for six years, before coming to Rogersville; and

WHEREAS, the two extraordinary doctors were honored with a reception celebrating their fifty years of medical service, where they were also awarded Outstanding Physicians for 2006 by the Primary Care Association of Tennessee; the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians bestowed them with their 2006 John S. Derryberry, M.D. Distinguished Service Award, and in 2007, the couple received the Rural Health Physician of the Year from the Rural Health Association of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Drs. Marcelo are faithful and devout members of St. Henry's, where Dr. B. is active with the Knights of Columbus, and Dr. Josie is a member of the choir; and

WHEREAS, their many awards and accomplishments aside, Drs. Bernardino and Josefina Marcelo are most appreciative of the love and support they receive from each other and their three children; and

WHEREAS, Drs. Bernardino and Josefina Marcelo truly epitomize the ideal of the dedicated physician who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality health care for all, and this remarkable couple should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Dr. Bernardino Marcelo and Dr. Josefina Marcelo our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.